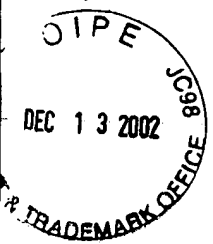


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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 02860.0585

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Tomoaki TAMURA ) Group Art Unit: 2612  
Application No.: 09/084,007 ) Examiner: Rashawn N. Tillery  
Filed: May 26, 1998 )  
For: DIGITAL CAMERA )

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In reply to the Office Action dated August 14, 2002 (Paper No. 8) the period for response to which extends through December 16, 2002 (December 14 being a Saturday), with a one-month extension of time, Applicant submits this Preliminary Amendment concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Before examination of the above application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claim 20, amend claims 21-26, and add new claim 27 as follows:

21. (Amended) The portable camera of claim 27, wherein the first color image data and the second color image data are digital image data including a data set of luminance data and color difference data.

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